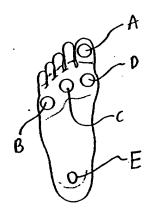
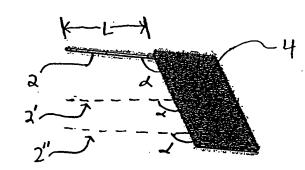
PRIOR ART



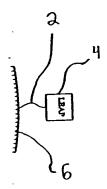
F16.1

PRIOR ART



F16.2

PRIOR ART



F1G. 3

FIGURE 4

Pre-load machine with handle-forming material and test element material

Hand feed handle-forming material into scoring station to form first and second portions of handle

Handle-forming material passes through stationary folding dowels which fold first portion of handle-forming material towards the second portion of the handle forming material

The handle-forming material is then split into two distinctive halves in preparation for test element insertion

Pre-heat test element material by feeding through heating chamber

Insert test element material within the separated space between the first and second portions of the handle-forming material

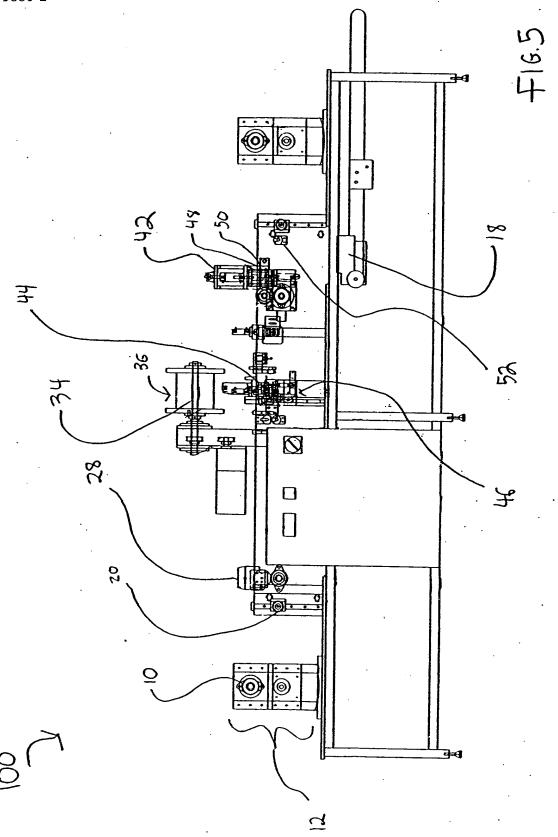
Heat seal or mechanically bond the handle-forming material to secure the test element material

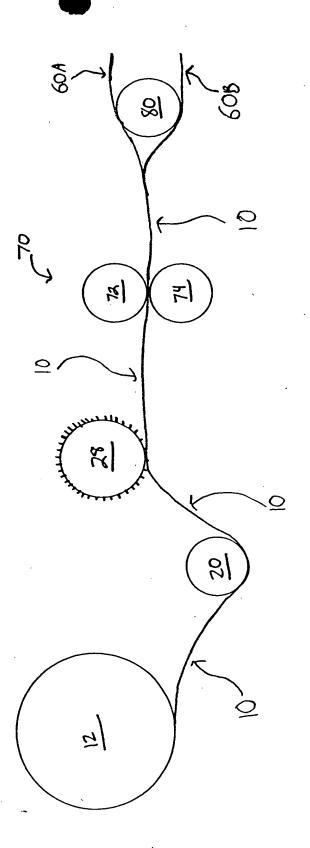
Proper length of test element material is cut from it's spool after the heat seal or bonding within the handle-forming material is complete

Product advances to a load sensor station that performs quality control by checking for the proper gram force buckling strength of the test element

If the gram force measured is outside of an acceptable tolerance range, a guillotine knife is activated which cuts off the test element in toto, thus creating a rejected unit

If the gram force of the product is acceptable, it advances to the last station that either cuts the handle forming material to create individual units that are routed to a collection container for packaging or scores the handle material to create individual perforated/conjoined units rewound to form a "Tear-off" dispenser roll





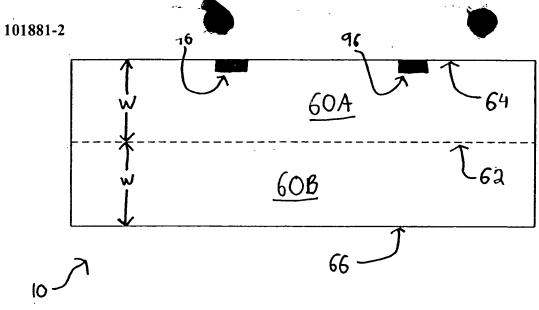
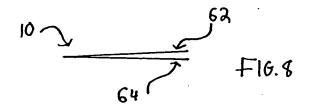


FIG. 7



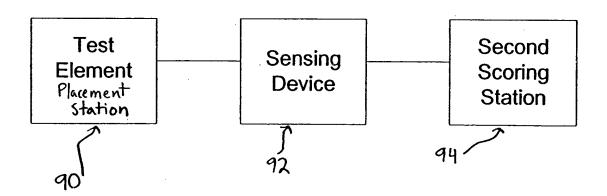


FIG. 9